

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1529 - HB 1545

March 8, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes a family who is party to a juvenile court proceeding resulting from a report or investigation of harm or abuse to request a family special advocate to serve in the interests of family reunification and family support.

Requires the court to notify the parents of a child who is the subject of an abuse investigation of their right to a family special advocate, and to appoint, without delay, such an advocate upon request of a parent.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the courts' only obligations pursuant to this legislation are to notify the parents of their rights and to appoint the family special advocate, upon request.
- The family special advocate created in this legislation is assumed to perform their duties either as a volunteer akin to those who work under the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) organization or at the expense of private parties; therefore, any increase in state expenditures to the court system is estimated to be not significant.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Children's Services (DCS), the proposed legislation will not significantly affect the policies or operations of the Department; therefore, any increase in state expenditures to DCS is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic".

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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